5	**COORDINATION/INTEGRATION**	*Effective: 7/1/97*
5.3	**Participant Use of Services/Programs at Certifications**	*Revised: 3/1/98*

POLICY: At certification, local WIC projects shall assess all WIC applicants' current use of economic assistance programs, food and nutrition programs, and health services; document use in DAISy; and provide applicants with information and/or refer them to health-related and public assistance programs they are not using but for which they may have a need for and may be eligible. Update this information at subsequent certifications and provide information or referrals as needed.

PROCEDURE:

A. ASSESSMENT OF THE USE OF SERVICES/PROGRAMS
   The programs/services to assess for participation are identified on the WIC Questionnaires (see Attachments in Policy 3.20). Each program has a DAISy code, which is also indicated on the Questionnaires. Enter the code(s), as appropriate, into DAISy. At subsequent certifications or secondary nutrition education contacts, update the information.

B. PROVISION OF INFORMATION/REFERRALS

   1. Provide information and/or referrals per Project protocols (see policies 5.2 and 5.7). See policy 5.9 for sources for brochures, flyers, etc.

   2. Information and/or referrals are required for the following services, when applicants are not currently receiving the service and are potentially eligible:

      a) Written information and referrals to Medicaid/Healthy Start and/or Presumptive Eligibility (latter for pregnant women). For more information, contact your local tribal, health, or human services department; W-2 agency; or the MCH Hotline.

      b) pediatric and obstetric care, including immunizations (see Policy 5.4)

      c) resources for drug and other harmful substance abuse counseling and treatment (see Policy 5.4)

   3. Offer information on or referrals to Food Stamps and/or other food programs when Projects are at full caseload and applicants are placed on a waiting list (or when applicants are not income-eligible but are still needy).

C. DOCUMENT INFORMATION/REFERRALS

Document the provision of information and/or referrals in the participant's file (e.g., on the back of the Risk Factor/Flow Sheet).

D. UPDATE INFORMATION AND DOCUMENT

At subsequent certifications, reassess participation in programs, update the information as needed in DAISy, provide information or referrals as needed, and document.